



MSCP Annual Workshop
May 25, 2004

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County of San Diego - Parks and Open Space Program

Contributing to the County of San Diego Strategic Plan Environment Initiative

"Promote natural resource management strategies that ensure environmental preservation, quality of life, and economic development"

Students Cultivate Relationship with the Environment

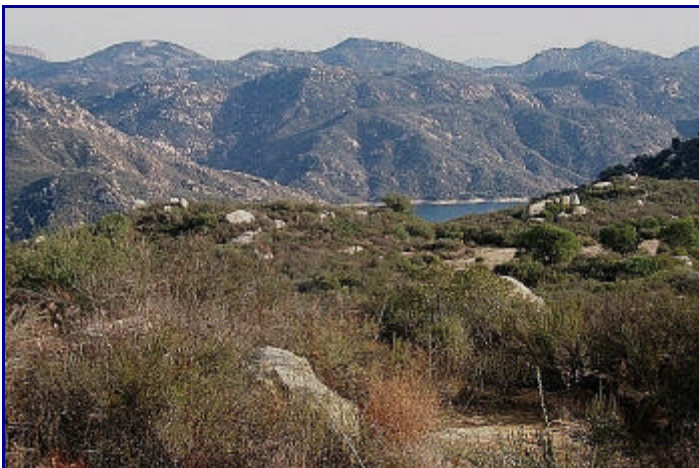
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GETTING TO KNOW THE MSCP

Tom Oberbauer, Chief, MSCP

San Diego County is known nationwide for its tremendous diversity of plants and animals and for its number of rare and endangered species. In fact, a study in the January 1997 issue of Science magazine identified San Diego County as one of two counties in the United States that are considered "hot spots" for unique and unusual species. In the past, as development occurred, small, disconnected areas of open space were created that were too small to support significant populations of wildlife. In the early 1990's, a concept grew from the Federal Endangered Species Act to create coordinated plans to deal with

ern portion of the County. The MSCP, adopted by the Board of Supervisors in October, 1997, was the result of 6 years of intense planning and review by a diverse group of private conservationists and property owners as well as a number of public agencies including the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Game, and non-profit organizations. The MSCP creates a more efficient and effective preserve system as well as provides better protection for the rare, threatened and endangered species in the coastal region. The goal of the County's plan is to acquire or permanently protect 98,379 acres. In the six years since the plan was approved, the County and its partners have assembled more than 89% of the preserve. A new subarea plan for the North County is currently being created by County staff and a third subarea plan for the East County will be developed in the near future.



Boulder Oaks MSCP Preserve with a view of San Vicente Reservoir .
This property was acquired by the County in 2003

high numbers of sensitive species as well as development. These plans, known as Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs), identify and conserve the most important wildlife habitats. In return, development can be streamlined into the areas that are more appropriate. This led to the concept of a Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) Plan, which assessed 85 species that were already listed as either rare or endangered in the southwest-

DO YOU KNOW SAN DIEGO?

Try your hand at this quiz about San Diego's environment! (Answers on Page 2)

1. San Diego County is roughly the same size as which of the following states? Delaware, Connecticut, Rhode Island or Massachusetts
2. True or False. San Miguel Otay and Black Mountain were once peaks as tall as those in the Andes (15,000 - 19,000 feet).
3. How many plant species are only found in San Diego County? Choose one: 6, 12, 18, 24, 30
4. Rainfall in Ocotillo Wells is about how many inches per year? 0, 2, 4, 6, 10, 12.
5. Rainfall at Lindberg Field is about how many inches per year? 4, 8, 10, 12, 15, 20
6. Rainfall on Mount Palomar is about how many inches per year? 5, 15, 25, 35, 45
7. How many kinds of bats live in San Diego County? 2, 6, 8, 10, 15 or more than 20



Volcan Mountain in East County near Julian is part of the County's future East County Plan

Protecting Watersheds – You Can Make a Difference

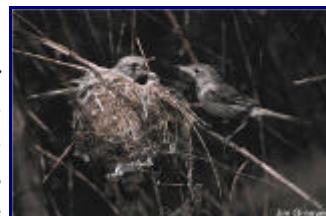
By Joe DeStefano, Project Manager, County of San Diego, Watershed Protection Program

What is a Watershed?

A watershed is an area of land that catches rain and snow and drains or seeps into a marsh, stream, river, lake, ocean or groundwater. A watershed can be large (draining thousands of square miles to a major river, lake or ocean) or very small (a 20-acre watershed that drains to a pond).

Why is it important to protect the watersheds?

Everyone lives and works in one! Believe it or not, what you do at your home and business affects everyone downstream - plants, animals and people. Most people think that businesses produce most of the pollution.



Least Bells Vireo Nest

Surprisingly, it's residents, like you and me. It doesn't matter if you live hundreds of miles from the ocean, what you do DOES affect water quality.



Unlike some areas of the country, urban runoff in San Diego (including rain, water from washing cars, excess water for lawns and gardens, etc.) flows directly into the ocean -- it does not move on to a treatment plant for cleaning. The cigarette butt thrown on the ground or the wrapper from a piece of candy tossed out of a car window will end up on our beaches, in our streams, lakes, bays and the ocean. The good news is there are some simple things you can do to keep our environment clean.

You Can Make a Difference

Keep your car in good repair. This will cut down on the oil and grease pollutants. High bacteria levels that are responsible for beach closures are not only the result of sewer spills Pet waste also contributes to the high bacteria count. Clean up after your pet in your yard or when you take them on walks.

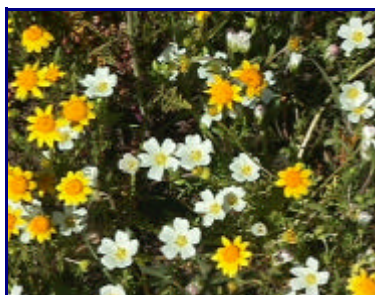
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SAVE THE DATE MSCP Annual Public Workshop

On Tuesday, May 25, 2004, the participating agencies of the Multiple Species Conservation Program will hold their annual public workshop starting at 6:30 pm at the San Diego Zoo Otto Center. Staff from the United States Department of the Interior, California Department of Fish and Game, County of San Diego and Cities of San Diego, Chula Vista and Poway will jointly conduct the Annual Public Workshop.

Each public agency will present an update on their conservation activities during the reporting period from January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2003 focusing on management and monitoring activities as well as acquisitions and the status of the preserve system. To view previous MSCP annual reports, visit www.mscp-sandiego.org.



Cuyamaca meadowoam

1. Connecticut
 2. True
 3. 30 plant species
 4. 2 inches
 5. 10 inches
 6. 45 inches
 7. More than 20
- ANSWERS**
ENVIRO-QUIZ



The Human Touch-Students Cultivate Relationship with the Environment

Cailin NiChrualaoich, Ranger County of San Diego
Department Parks and Recreation



Quino checkerspot butterfly
Photo: Fred Sproul

Dr. Alison Anderson of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, along with Dominic Dirksen and his Steele Canyon biology students, are cultivating soils collected from the San Diego Na-

tional Wildlife Refuge in nursery facilities located next-door to Steele Canyon High School (SCHS) donated by Noah Homes, an organization that provides residential care for people with developmental disabilities. Initially funded in 2000 with a grant from the National Wildlife Federation, this unique opportunity offers SCHS students hands-on experience with environmental habitat restoration.

The objective of the program is to take soils containing seed base for the endangered Quino checkerspot butterfly's habitat, grow plants from the seeds and replant them in the nearby San Diego National Wildlife Refuge and other known Quino flyways in the region. Six starter flats of coastal sage scrub seed mix were planted in October, and are now ready to be transplanted at the Chula Vista Wetlands Preserve.



Bruce Hanson, a botanist with Recon, and other organizers hope to expand the variety of native plants grown at the greenhouse facility. Wetland tree species, such as willow and sycamore, can be grown and planted by students in parks and other restoration sites. In the process, students will become familiar with habitats and characteristics of native species. Another objective of the program is to inspire students to preserve our natural resources for years to come.

The nursery is a joint effort coordinated by the MSCP Outreach Committee, whose members represent the Wildlife Agencies, local agencies that participate in the MSCP, and building industry and environmental groups.

We All Live Downstream Follow these 10 clean water tips!

1. Do your Doo-dy! Scoop the poop on walks and in your yard. Throw it in the trash.



2. Dirt Hurts! Dirt is natural, but it clogs up streams and hurts plants and animals. Cover stockpiles of dirt.



3. Don't Trash San Diego! Put litter and cigarette butts in their place- the trashcan.

4. Don't Supersize your Pesticide! Use a measuring cup and follow label directions.



5. Hey, Slick...Fix leaky cars and recycle used oil.

6. Get Pumped! Service your septic tank on a regular basis.

7. Rinse Right! Rinse out paintbrushes and fish tanks in the sink, never in the street.

8. Sweep it or Swim in it! When you hose dirt and leaves into the street you'll swim in them later.

9. Don't be a Drip! Water your lawn, not the pavement.



10. Be Resourceful! Use the County's Pollution Prevention Resources. A good starting point is www.sdcounty.ca.gov/dpw/watersheds.



Trish Boaz of the MSCP cleaning out the Chula Vista Wetlands with the help of Bonita Vista High School students

***You Can Make a Difference
(Continued from page 2)***

Fertilizer and pesticides combined with over-watering impact water quality. Minimize the use of pesticides by following the directions on fertilizer packages, and adjust the amount of water used in your yard. Simply pick up after your-

self, or your pet, and be aware of how you daily impact your environment is a great place to start! Most importantly, remember that we all live in watersheds... we all live downstream.



Lawrence and Barbara Daley Preserve near Jamul donated by the property owners to the County of San Diego MSCP in 2001.



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Chief, Open Space Division
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Multiple Species Conservation Program

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Parks and Open Space Program
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**Fifteenth Annual
Earth Fair 2004
Sunday, April 25
10am - 5pm
Balboa Park**

<http://www.earthdayweb.org/>